

Greetings!

Congratulations to [Literacy Center West](#), whose program The Next Level, was just awarded a 2010 Youth Program Excellence Award by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Funded by the SWORWIB, The Next Level annually serves nearly 100 young men and women aged 17-21. Its participants receive job placement, GED preparation and career advancement assistance. "By focusing on developing youth character and civic responsibility, The Next Level also assists youth to become productive and contributing citizens in their communities," the state notes.

"Literacy Center West does exceptional work with its programs," says **Sherry Kelley Marshall**, President/CEO of the SWORWIB. "We're thrilled that the state recognizes the achievements of Executive Director **Jason Hecker** and his team."

Literacy Center West was one of five youth service providers recognized by the state. Malachi's Youth Opportunities Summer Employment Program in Clermont County was also recognized. At the SWORWIB's November meeting, Literacy Center West will be honored for its achievements.



The staff at LCW at the dedication of its new headquarters in June. Top left is Jason Hecker, Executive Director, and next to him is Judge Robert Ruelhman, a longtime benefactor of LCW.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

TIM NOLAN: WHY STEM WORKS
CONSTRUCTION CLUBS A GO!

CMHA: REQUIRED PARTNER OF
THE MONTH

SHORT TAKES

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SWORWIB

All meetings held at SuperJobs Center, 1916 Central Parkway, unless otherwise noted.

Oct. 25: Workforce Partners Fall Training Forum, new Red Cross headquarters, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Nov. 18: Board meeting, 8 - 10 a.m.

SUPERJOBS

All meetings held at SuperJobs Center unless otherwise noted.

Orientation for new job seekers, 9-11 a.m. **Mondays.**

Orientation also held 1-2 p.m. **Tuesdays**, Jordan Crossing location, Community Action Agency, 1740 Langdon Farm Road

Job Search Strategies, 9-10 a.m. **Tuesdays**

Resume Writing, 9-10 a.m. **Wednesdays**

Interviewing, 9-10 a.m., **Thursdays**

Networking workshop, 9-10 a.m. **Fridays**

WORKFORCE RESOURCES

[SuperJobs.com](#): Help for job seekers and employers at the SuperJobs Center

Hamilton County [Job and Family Services](#)

Ohio's [Workforce Information Center](#)

[Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber](#)

United Way [211](#): Information on health and human services

When it comes to STEM, **Tim Nolan** is a true believer.

Nolan, Executive Director of [Greater Cincinnati Tech Prep](#) and a member of the SWORWIB'S [Emerging Workforce Development Council](#) (EWDC), says that educational emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and math offers a career path to students that will allow them to support their families with good wages. "That is where the future is," he says simply.

Nolan has been executive director of Tech Prep for 11 years. Tech Prep, which focuses on STEM courses, connects high schools and colleges and allows students to earn college credit while in high school. Unlike Advanced Placement classes, the Tech Prep courses are based more on skills and teach academics within a career context, says Nolan. It targets what Nolan calls the "neglected majority" -- low-income students in rural and urban high schools. "For example," he says, "a student can take Financial Accounting 1 and 2 while still in high school, and then enroll in Financial Accounting 3 at Cincinnati State. It saves them a tremendous amount of time and money."



Nolan joined the EWDC four years ago and participated in the Youth Build System that won Area 13 state recognition, notes **Sherry Kelley Marshall**. "I wanted to get connected," he says. "The EWDC works with the same audience as we do, but focuses more on out-of-school youth. I want to help work on preventive measures, to keep the students in high school so that Tech Prep can serve them."

"We're fortunate to have someone with Tim's passion and knowledge work with us on the Emerging Workforce Council," says **Nicole Ware**, EWDC Coordinator.

Nolan is particularly proud of Career Tech's development of a bioscience curriculum -- the only nationally certified program in the Midwest, he says. Currently, 300 students at nine high schools in Southwest Ohio are on a bioscience career path. "The pipeline is just starting," he says. "The first wave of college graduate is coming out this year." And those graduates will find jobs -- pharmaceuticals and medical device companies in Ohio say they desperately need skilled workers. For Nolan, that's a perfect example of why STEM works.

Latest on [Ohio's labor market](#)

Latest on [U.S. labor market](#)

SWORWIB'S MISSION

We will create, develop, and maintain a comprehensive workforce development system that engages the entire community towards ever-increasing levels of self-sufficiency.

The SWORWIB drives policy, direction and funding oversight for the public workforce investment system in the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

The SWORWIB promotes employment through jobseeker and employer services, training and education, workforce readiness preparation and economic development.

For more information on the SWORWIB, click [here](#).

CONSTRUCTION CORNER: SCHOOL CLUBS UP AND RUNNING!



Construction Clubs are off to a great start! This new SWORWIB/[Spirit of Construction](#) initiative started this fall in two Cincinnati Public Schools: Ethel Taylor Academy and Quebec Heights. Volunteers from [Associated Builders and Contractors](#) are leading the middle-schoolers through all the phases of construction over an 8-week school quarter. Pictured is Diamond Crawford, a sixth-grader at Ethel Taylor, with her electric project. Construction Club members installed the junction boxes, wiring, plugs, switches, and lights to make a fully operational display.

MEET OUR REQUIRED PARTNER: CMHA AND TED BERGH

When **Ted Bergh** took the reins at the [Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority](#) in June, he had to rapidly learn about the workforce development efforts of the SWORWIB. He was now a member on the full board, on the Required Partners Leadership Council, and on the Emerging Workforce Development Council. Those workforce development efforts involved CMHA in significant ways: Residents were being trained through pre-apprenticeship programs and some of their children educated about construction careers through Spirit of Construction Build Your Future training at various CPS middle schools.



[Constructing Future graduates at August ceremony.](#)

In August, CMHA celebrated the graduation of 26 Public Housing or Housing Choice Voucher participants from [Constructing Futures](#) pre-apprenticeship training -- and, Bergh notes, more than 70 percent of the graduates already have jobs or are in apprenticeship programs.

"We can't do apprenticeship training," says Bergh, formerly Chief Financial Officer at Metro and the Cincinnati Enquirer, "but we can partner with those who can." The most recent training was done through the [Community Action Agency](#), another SWORWIB partner agency. "The training increases the skill levels of our residents," Bergh says. "And by being a member of the SWORWIB, it gives me opportunities to connect employers to potential employees."

Some of those residents who graduate from the training may even be hired by other residents of CMHA. Under the Department of Housing and Urban Development's [Section 3](#) program, and with the help of \$19 million in stimulus funds, CMHA is awarding construction contracts to some of its residential contractors -- who then can hire trained residents. For more on this program, read this [story](#) at the Business Courier.

SHORT TAKES: SECTORS STUDY, INVESTING IN PEOPLE, WHY LMCS MATTER

MORE VALIDATION FOR SECTORS APPROACH: The 2010 [Sector Snapshot](#), published by the Center for Community Economic Development, says that sector initiatives have:

- ❖ become more important as a means of providing workforce development, adult literacy, post-secondary education, and economic development services
- ❖ expanded into new industry sectors
- ❖ grown in number throughout the country
- ❖ involved employers in a more integrated way
- ❖ broadened the types of organizations involved
- ❖ more specifically targeted the needs of low income and other disadvantaged individuals

The SWORWIB was among the respondents whose data was used in the study.

MARSHALL HONORED: Sherry Kelley Marshall was honored Sept. 8 by the Workforce One Investment Board of Southwest Ohio with an Investing in People Award. The [WOIB](#), which oversees workforce investment in Butler, Warren and Clermont counties, recognized Marshall and other Tri-State WIB directors for their regional collaboration to address workforce issues.



Pictured at right: **Jeff Weber**, Executive Director of the WOIB; **Rosie**

Picklesimer, director of Workforce Connections in Adams, Pike, Brown and Scioto counties; **Sherry Kelley Marshall**; and **Dan Sack**, Chairman of the WOIB.

WHY LMCS MATTER: A white paper examining the impact of Labor-Management Committees (also called Peer Transition Support Teams) at Ford Batavia/Sharonville and Avon was sent to officials at the Department of Labor, Department of Job and Family Services, and the AFL-CIO. The paper, titled "Cushioning the Blow: When plants close, strong LMCs ease the transition," was researched and written by **Sherry Kelley Marshall** and **Kathleen Williams**. It is posted [here](#) at www.superjobs.com. The SWORWIB is currently participating in such committees at Avon and Beam Global Spirit and Wine.

ALL ABOUT TRAINING:

The SWORWIB held a training session Sept. 27 (see participants at right) for all its Required Partners that focused on service integration.



Among the topics: "Serving the New Unemployed" and "Seamless Service Concepts." **Mary Ann Lawrence**, President/CEO of the Center for Workforce Learning, led the training. Participants included representatives of Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Agency, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Hamilton County Job and Family Services, Community Action Agency, Goodwill, Great Oaks, Cincinnati State and Mature Services. The Workforce Partners Council will offer similar training Oct. 25 at its fall training forum.

IN THE NEWS:

Greater Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky lagging competitively:

<http://cincinnati.bizjournals.com/cincinnati/stories/2010/09/27/story2.html?b=1285560000^3994611>

BioOhio chief says bioscience offers hope to Ohio economy:

<http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/business/stories/2010/09/19/bioscience-can-be-just-the-pill-ohios-economy-needs.html?sid=101>

Cincinnati State offers new bioscience career

path: <http://soapboxmedia.com/innovationnews/0907BioOhio-grant-retraining-cincinnati-state.aspx>

Manufacturing enters a new age: <http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20100906/BIZ01/9050363>

Meet some 99ers from Greater Cincinnati:

<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20100906/BIZ01/9060338/Long-term-unemployed-workers-grow>

Grant to help ex-inmates get jobs:

<http://nky.cincinnati.com/article/AB/20100905/NEWS0108/9060302/Grant-to-help-ex-inmates-get-jobs>

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